



Please ask for / Foighnich airson: Samantha Muir
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Date / Ceann la: 07.11.24

Dear Parents / A Charaidean Choir,

Welcome back to a new school session and we hope you all enjoyed a restful October break. There are lots of dates for your diary as this is a busy term.

Absences / Neo-Lathaireachdean: If your child is going to be absent from nursery or school, please can you give this information to the school in advance. If your child is absent unexpectedly on any given day, please phone the school on 01470 521307 or email dunvegan.primary@highland.gov.uk before 09.30am, this applies for nursery children also.

Adverse weather number/Droch-thide: In the event of bad weather preventing the school from opening the Head Teacher will update the telephone service by 8am. A message will also be put onto Seesaw. Telephone 0800 5642272 and key in the school's pin number 041950. A list of school closures will also be posted on www.highland.gov.uk/learninghere/schools/schoolclosures

Visitors / Neach-tadhail: If you are visiting the school for any reason, please enter the school grounds using the small pedestrian gate and buzz the door, someone will then let you in. Please then report to the office on arrival. If you need to contact the school during the school day, please note that the office is not always manned, and messages can be left on the answering machine. Thank you.

School Dinner Money / Airgead Dinneir: School lunches are available to all children in full time education, and are FREE up until they reach P6 & 7 when the cost is £2.40 per day.

2 days - £4.80
3 days - £7.20
4 days - £9.60
5 days - £12.00

School Day / Latha sgoile: Sgoil araich starts each morning at 9am and school starts at 9.15am. Can parents please note that there is NO PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION until 9am, and that if children are dropped off earlier than that they will not be supervised. Some of the school transport arrives early as it has subsequent journeys to make. The time before school starts is NOT a break time.

Homework / Obair Dachaigh: Reading/homework journals will be given to all learners again this year and daily reading remains a priority. We would be very grateful if you could regularly add your comments to these records too. Please can you listen to your children read as often as you can and

discuss the stories / events etc. afterwards. Please also continue reading to your child, this is so important at all ages.

In addition to regular reading and book talk, class teachers will send home spelling and time tables/number practice along with additional games and website recommendations for you to use. Older children may bring home project work.

Forest School / Sgoil na Coille: Forest school sessions will continue for each class this term. Mrs MacGregor's training is nearly complete. Please make sure that your child has appropriate outdoor clothing and wellies in school.

Clothing / Aodach: Please can you write your child's name on their clothing, especially school jumpers. This helps us so much when we are trying to return 'lost items'. Please could we ask all children to bring in a pair of indoor crocs, trainers or shoes (NOT SLIPPERS) that will only be worn inside the school building. This will help to keep our carpets, cushions, rugs etc. clean and dry. If you prefer, wellies for outside play are a great alternative. It is also a good idea to make sure that ALL children have a spare change of clothes in school.

Snack / Biadh beag: Please can you send your child to school daily with a healthy morning snack. We do not operate a tuck bar at the moment.

Breakfast club / Club Bracaist: Breakfast club will continue to run daily (helpers dependant). We are so thankful to our wonderful volunteers, as without them, we would not be able to run this club. If anyone is available to help out on a Friday morning, please get in touch with Leona in the office, as we currently have no helpers to run it.

PE/ Sports: Please can you send in a PE kit with your child - including trainers, shorts and a t-shirt. This can be left at school on their hanger or tray in class.

Library / Leabharlann: The mobile library will next be visiting school on Thursday 21st November. Please can you make sure that your child has taken back any books that were borrowed from there last time.

YMI / Ceol: YMI music sessions will be starting next week, 11th November for EM 5-7 & GM 4-6 pupils.

Swimming / Snamh: We have reshuffled our swimming sessions with Carbst Primary. The dates are now as follow:

EM 1-4 - Week beginning 10th March

GM 1-4 - Week beginning 17th March

EM 5-7 - Week beginning 12th May

GM 5&6 - Week beginning 17th May

Music /Ceol: We continue to have music tuition for Chanter on a Tuesday morning and Pipe Band Drumming on a Thursday morning, virtually and in school lessons. If you would like your child to start either of these, please have a look online here:

<https://www.myhighlife.co.uk/music-tuition/login/>

Afterschool Clubs / Club na Sgoile

Jaggy Thistles: Nan continues to run her Jaggy Thistles music group (For age 6 +) on a Monday from 3.30pm – 4.30pm. If your child would be interested in learning the Tin Whistle or Recorder, please let us know and come along and join in.

Nursery / Sgoil Araich: Our nursery is open full time hours, from 9am – 3pm each day.

- Please can children have a pair of indoor shoes (NOT slippers), a change of clothes and a waterproof jacket each day.
- If you have any issues or queries about the nursery, then please feel free to email Catherine or Jeanette on catherine.matheson@highland.gov.uk or jeanette.slater@portreehigh.org.uk

Headlice / Mialan: Head Lice are a common problem in school aged children. They can't be prevented, but regular checking ensures early detection and treatment if necessary. Parents and carers should check their children's head once a week during hair washing. You need your usual shampoo, conditioner, and a detection comb – ask your local pharmacist to recommend a suitable one. Remember that you are looking for living moving lice, the only evidence that your child is infected. If you find a living louse, ask your local pharmacist, school nurse, health visitor or GP for advice regarding treatment.

End of the School Day / Deireadh an latha sgoile : Please can all parents / carers that are collecting children at the end of the school day please adhere to the following protocol:

1. Nursery children leave at 3pm
2. Pupils using school transport are escorted out to the playground at 3.05pm, school transport is then dismissed.
3. Parents collecting children must come in through the double gates and wait for children to be handed over to them.

This is to make sure that the end of day traffic is handled in as safe a way as possible and we do appreciate your help.

Important Dates / Cinn-latha cudromach:

Date TBC - Film G. Miss NicLeoid continues to be absent this week, but we do anticipate her return next week. GM 1-4 continue to have Mr B Urquhart as their teacher this week. Miss NicLeoid has been busy working on this year's Film G entry and a selection of the GM pupils will be involved in this.

Date TBC - Carol Singing. Some of our pupils will attend the Lunch Club at the Old School Restaurant and sing some Christmas carols for them.

15th November - Children in Need. We are asking children to come to school in their Pyjamas to help raise money for Children in Need. We will host a Pyjama party in the afternoon instead of having a whole school assembly. Donations can be made using the ParentPay link here: <https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=16742> This will be sent out in a Seesaw message for ease of payment.

20th November - Parent & Pupil conferences. A time slot will be sent home with children in the next week or so for you and your child to attend our twice yearly Parent and pupil conferences. This will be an opportunity for you to come and chat with your child's teacher and have a look over some of their work.

29th November - Wreath making. The Parent Council is hosting their annual Wreath making evening. This year it will take place in Dunvegan Hall on Friday 29th November, 7-9pm. To book your place please email dunvegan.primary@highlandpc.co.uk The cost is £20 per head, and all materials will be provided, along with festive refreshments. Get in early to book your place.

30th November - Santa Dash. The annual Santa Dash is back in Portree on Saturday 30th November. Whether you want to run the full route, or walk it with the family and the dog, it's a great excuse to get out and have a bit of fun with friends. You can sign up to enter here: <https://register.enthuse.com/ps/event/SkyeSantaDash2024> Children under 8 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

7th December - Christmas Fayre. Our Parent Council are organising the Christmas Fayre & Santa's Grotto, which will take place in the Dunvegan Community Hall. They are looking for offers of help in the cafe, an hour of your time will make such a difference. They are also looking for some home baking for the event. Please get in touch with Anna Campbell, PC chair if you can help out.

10th December - P5, 6 & 7 Dance Festival. Pupils will travel to Portree on the Dunvegan Community Minibus to join other schools for this annual event.

12th December - Christmas Jumper Day. Children are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper to school on Thursday 12th December. We will collect money for Save the Children - suggested donation of £1.

12th December - Christmas Lunch. Traditional Christmas lunch will be served in the canteen to all pupils who wish to have it, please can you let Leona in the office know if your child would like to have this. The cost will be £2.40 for any P6 & P7 pupil.

17th December - Christmas Variety Show. Please join us at Dunvegan Community Hall for our Christmas Variety show, doors open 6pm for a 6.30pm start. There will also be a number of enterprise stalls selling items that the children have produced.

18th & 19th December - Christmas Parties. Christmas parties will take place on Wednesday 18th for the upper classes and Thursday 19th for the lower classes. We are going to give our P4 pupils the choice of which party they would like to attend. Children can either come to school in their party clothes or take them with them to change into.

19th December - Christmas Church Service. Parents and family members are welcome to join us for our Christmas Church Service at Dunvegan Church of Scotland at 10am.

End of Term / Deireadh an teirm: School & Sgoil Araich will close on Friday 20th December for the Christmas Holidays, and will reopen on Monday 6th January.

Please call or email any time. Your support makes an incredible difference to our school and we consider you all a part of our team.

I look forward to seeing everyone over the course of the term.

Tapadh Leibh / Thank you,

Samantha Muir

Head Teacher / Ceannard
Dunvegan Primary School / Bun Sgoil Dhun Bheagain